

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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## THE KNOCKERS.

Superintendent Forbes adds another clincher to the evidence that Hawaii is being damaged in Washington by the persistent "knocking" of individuals who answer perfectly to the somewhat vulgar description of "soreheads." The chances are that if George Washington or Abraham Lincoln were in Hawaii and mentioned for public office, a lot of chaps reeking with disappointment and soured sentiment would rush on a mass of letters telling everybody from the president to the doorkeepers that Washington was a thief and Lincoln an incompetent nincompoop, and that anyway neither of them was a good party man.

The president and his cabinet officers are heartily tired of it; the department officials are tired of it; Hawaii also is tired of it.

The most cheering fact is that the chronic kickers are beginning to defeat themselves. The more they howl and the wilder they rave, the more their grievances are discounted. It is well sometimes to let them blow off steam here at home so that the people of the territory can size them up accurately and ignore them accordingly.

## HIS CHANCE TO ROAR.

What Col. Roosevelt will say to the new treaty with the Republic of Colombia remains to be seen. The treaty will express Uncle Sam's regret at the partition of Colombia at the time of Col. Roosevelt's famous Panama Canal coup. The Colonel's enemies have always contended that he allowed the United States officially to back a revolution that put millions of dollars into the pockets of a private corporation which had been lobbying its way in Washington. The colonel always contended that he took the only method of assuring Uncle Sam the Panama Canal route. It was over this affair that the Colonel had libel suits started by the government against the Indianapolis News and the New York World—libel suits which ended triumphantly for the newspapers. They called his action almost everything but a rank steal and intimated that it bordered on that. Now if the United States expresses official regret for the "Panama incident" and pays Colombia \$15,000,000 besides, the Colonel is likely to roar.

## THE HEARST PRESS FIGHTING BOOZE

Whatever may be the opinion concerning William Randolph Hearst or the "yellowness" of his papers, the power and influence of the Hearst press must be acknowledged.

The entire Hearst press has just thrown out liquor advertising and declared itself on the side of the fight against booze. Mr. Hearst himself sets forth the new viewpoint in a letter to his editors in which he makes it plain that he is against the evils bred by liquor. He made it plain that the fight the Hearst press has long made in its news columns is now extended to the advertising columns.

Results from the new Hearst policy were quick in coming. Anti-Saloon league branches and good government associations in all parts of the country passed resolutions or wrote letters commending the crusade, and, on the other hand, the liquor associations voiced their anger and fear. In San Francisco the Knights of the Royal Arch, an association of liquor men, called a meeting to denounce the San Francisco Examiner. Upon this the Examiner commented:

"The Examiner hopes that every person in San Francisco in favor of drunkenness and the drug evil will attend this meeting and denounce the Examiner. The Examiner will consider it a compliment to be denounced by such people. This paper does not want the support of people who believe in drunkenness and the drug evil."

Every day that passes sees a new force added to the army fighting the Boozie Business.

## "POSITIVE UNDERSTANDING" WITH GERMANY.

Cautious but evidently inspired advices from Berlin give hope that a "positive understanding" will be reached between Germany and the United States on the Lusitania affair.

The only basis on which the United States can reach a "positive understanding" is a basis which includes definite acceptance by Germany of responsibility for the loss of American lives and the violation of American rights. Berlin would readily agree to pay indemnity—has suggested such an agreement, in fact, but

Berlin also holds that morally the sinking of the Lusitania was justified by the British blockade of commerce.

With such reasoning no neutral nation, least of all the leading neutral nation, could agree without at once agreeing to the thoroughly bad doctrine that in warfare the policy of reprisal justifies any measure whatever.

Nor would Germany hold to such a doctrine, we believe, except as it gives the Teutons a possible lever to attack the British blockade. Germany's attitude all along has been that the United States should make a more vigorous protest to the Allies than has been made, and by this attitude Germany has given the impression that she will trade an apology for the Lusitania for action by America which will ameliorate the blockade.

The president's later speeches indicate that he realizes, as the country realizes, the futility of continual note-exchanges. When the first Lusitania notes were written, the United States believed that their emphatic tone meant either speedy compliance by Germany or a break in relations. Now the people of this country do not know what our notes mean—whether action or merely diplomatic conversations. And when the people of a democracy do not know what the government means by its utterances, they cannot be expected to keep on giving whole-hearted support to those utterances.

The German government perhaps is beginning to understand more fully the position of America, which has probably been made clearer to the German foreign secretary than to the American people. Indemnity is not wanted by the United States; what is wanted is a statement from Berlin which recognizes that the very least reparation acceptable to this government is assumption of responsibility and apology by the German government. Otherwise, there is no constructive basis for future relations.

## ASSOCIATED PRESS IMPARTIALITY.

Shortly after the war broke out, Germans and German sympathizers in the United States began to complain that the Associated Press wasn't treating the Teuton cause fairly, and here were even insinuations that this news agency was under Allied influence. That the Germans have reached a different conclusion after experiences of a year and a half with Associated Press war news is indicated by the following statement. It was made recently by Dr. C. J. Hexamer of Philadelphia, president of the National German-American Alliance:

"In the United States I can say that the Associated Press has tried to be fair in the dissemination of news reports. The cables from Europe have been distorted and colored, but that hasn't been true of the Associated Press matter originating and telegraphed through the United States. Individual newspapers have printed a lot of stuff about myself that hasn't been true at all and credited me with wild assertions that I have never thought of making, but that doesn't apply to the press service."

The bad weather gets the blame for everything these days. Now it's the cause of poor milk. Another cause is carelessness in milking. Presumably when the weather is good again the temperamental milkmen will cheer up and be more careful.

A newspaper of the Allies describes King Constantine of Greece as one who does most of his talking "with his German wife a-sitting on his knee." At least he hasn't somebody else's wife a-sitting on his knee.

There need be no particular worry over the report that Greece and Rumania have signed a pact to remain neutral. Anytime it is really necessary, the bigger Powers will simply step in and force the little fellows to fight.

War critics who are expected to grind out a column or two every day on "The Progress of the Campaign" can't be blamed for their irritation that "something doesn't happen."

The success of the Carranza soldiers in letting Villa get out of every corner is another proof of the strong government Uncle Sam recognized south of the Rio Grande.

Possibly J. Pierpont Morgan is going to England to see how long the Allies should continue borrowing good American money.

"Portugal Racked by Food Riots." Another innocent bystander.

## Letters OF TIMELY TOPICS

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

### AGAINST TAX RATE INCREASE.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin:—It would seem that the action of our tax gatherers in abstracting certain amounts of salaries from delinquent taxpayers city and county employees has had the desired effect, and the coffers of the city have benefited to a certain extent. This move is to be commended, for it is known that the man who pays his taxes when they are due, and on an honest return, enjoys nothing more than seeing the man who is attempting to sneak out of it get his.

There are rumblings now of an increased tax rate. That there should be no increase in the present tax rate can be made clear to anybody who will take the trouble to look into the record of living taxpayers. That record will show the amounts now paid by men of large affairs to run between the ridiculous and the sublime.

Paying taxes through a corporation in which one may be heavily interested is no excuse for not paying taxes on some palatial home in the city's suburbs.

The public would take much interest in reading over a list of names of men who make returns on a paltry amount of household furniture and the

amount of insurance they are carrying on the same. It seems to the writer that the result of an investigation of the assessor's books by a committee of "real taxpayers" will determine whether we need to raise the tax rate or merely collect the taxes due and payable but being sneaked out of under the present rate and law.

TAXPAYER

### ON THE CLIMATE.

(Contributed)

Katrinka dear, this climate here, has certainly been acting queer, for every day we wake and say, "The rain is pouring," but nay, nay, nay! Again it pours like all possessed, it rattles, roars and breaks our rest; the atmosphere comes down in hunks; it skanks us in our virtuous humks; it dashes madly on the floors, through windows, apertures, and doors. We hop around from spot to spot, and try to land where rain is not, but though we dodge and think to scurry, we're always wetter than before. The gales come sweeping through the halls and tear our clothes from off the walls; my Sunday-go-to-meeting gown by muddy feet was trampled down, and many a sportive garment white is doomed to languish out of sight. Alas, alack, and well-a-day, existence now is far from gay; al fresco living may be fine when sunbeams filter through the vine, and opai wavelets and gleam, and bid you on their bosom dream. But when the fury of the deep is fierce enough to wake from sleep the hardest dweller by the sea, there is no charm at Waikiki.

A. E. Waikiki.

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—CITY ENGINEER COLLINS: We are getting data together for the construction of several bridges and culverts badly needed since the big rains.

—WILLIAM HENRY: I have been in the islands thirty-eight years, but have never known before such stormy weather as we have had the past few weeks.

—ALBERT P. TAYLOR: The hibiscus exhibit in the Promotion Committee office is a big boost for Hawaii. I find that hundreds stop to look at the beautiful blossoms.

—OTTO WALLFISCH: Hawaii is a center for athletics, and I hope that we may be able to give the fans a number of good games. The Olympic team is here to win, and we expect to take our share of the contests with the local boys.

—PAUL STEEL: The essays on "True American Citizenship" which have been handed in to the committee in charge of the contest prove that the students of our schools are taking an active interest in what an American citizen should be.

—SHERIFF C. H. ROSE: Three new motorcycle officers will of course help a great deal in handling traffic on roads outside of the city of Honolulu proper. But we still need more patrolmen and detectives, which it appears we will not get for some time to come.

—ROBERT S. CHASE: Tourists in considerable numbers are beginning to make the trip around the island, and from what I gather they are getting through the poor stretches of highway without serious difficulty. We are still busy patching and laying Telford base rock at Hakipuu.

—CHARLES F. LOOMIS: That was a real Ad Club meeting yesterday at the Alexander Young Hotel, and the fact that the quarters were changed temporarily did not in any way affect the size of the crowd. It was one of the banner Ad Club days, of which there have been many.

—A. A. WILDER: I see that my friend Charley Forbes is telling us lots of interesting stuff about what he has been doing in Washington for the public and "private" interests of the people of Hawaii but not a word about how the expenses of his trip were met. I could throw considerable light on the matter if so inclined. Charley is a "good" poker player, I know.

—CAPT. FRID LAUREA: Deputy Sheriff Crowell is right when he says Honolulu is a well regulated city. There are few mainland cities where there is so little begging, drunkenness, or disorder as there is here. It is very seldom any disturbance or excitement occurs after midnight, because the police are careful to gather in all the beggars and drunks as fast as they find them.

The National Cash Register Co. of Canada, capital \$1,000,000, was incorporated at Ottawa.

## DWELLINGS FOR RENT

### FURNISHED HOUSES

Tantalus Heights ..... 3 Bedrooms ..... \$45.00  
Park Avenue ..... 2 " .....  
Pearl City (Peninsula) ..... 3 " .....

### UNFURNISHED HOUSES

919 Prospect St. .... 3 Bedrooms ..... \$40.00  
1221 Pensacola St. .... 4 " ..... 40.00  
1475 Thurston Ave. .... 5 " ..... 40.00  
2271 King St. .... 3 " ..... 35.00

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## FORBES' WORK IN WASHINGTON EXPEDITES BUSINESS FOR HAWAII

Spends Busy Two Months in Capital; Farewell Party is Notable

By C. S. ALBERT.  
(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 29.—Hawaii's Washington colony said "Aloha nui oe" to Charles E. Forbes, who left this evening for the coast and home. Senator Harding of Ohio, with his secretary Mr. Christian, were at the station and assisted Senator James C. McLaughlin of the far-west.

My aloha for everyone in Hawaii," said Senator Harding to Commissioner Forbes. "I love the islands. I am a nut when it comes down to the Hawaiian people and their island home."

Last night there was a real party in honor of Mr. Forbes. Senator Shafroth of Colorado was the guest of honor. Others in the party were Representatives Rudenberg, Johnson of Washington, Kettner of California, Davenport of Oklahoma, Prince Cupid, Anthony of Kansas and Houston of Tennessee; Capt. Gibbs of the general staff of the army, Lieut. Shafroth of the army, Territorial Senator Coke, Joe Breckins and Angus Erly. The brothers Desha and the brothers Gilman were the Hawaiian musicians for the occasion. They made a real hit—in fact such a hit that all the dinner guests at the Powahatan Hotel, where the luncheon was held, forsook their own parties to gather around, listen and applaud.

Yesterday was a gala day for Mr. Forbes. The House of Representatives passed three of the Hawaiian measures in which he is interested. They went through without a hitch and with plenty of members on the floor ready and willing to go to the

front for the islands if the occasion demanded.

One of these measures places all public service corporations under the direction and control of the public utilities commission. Another extends the jurisdiction of the harbor commission to tide lands and navigable rivers.

"I am glad I am homeward bound," said Commissioner Forbes. "I have had a pleasant time here working for Hawaii's interests, but I certainly will be glad to get home again and put on the harness."

It has been a busy two months that Mr. Forbes has spent in Washington. He has been the territorial expert witness in many matters pending before Congress. The delegate and Mr. Forbes have appeared before the territories committee, the public lands and the military affairs committee a half dozen times. They have explained all of the measures pending and also have presented the question of the improvement of the Honolulu harbor channel and the breakwaters at Nawiliwili and Kahului to the rivers and harbors committee.

All of the measures upon which Mr. Forbes was a competent witness have been thrashed out before the committees. Professor Jagger has had one hearing and will appear again before the public lands committee on the national park proposition.

The outlook for Hawaii in this year's legislation program is most encouraging. There has been an early start made on all matters of importance. The presence of Mr. Forbes, an innovation on the part of the territory, has expedited many matters that would have been delayed by demands of reports from his office, if he had not been here in person.

Cats are said to wash right over their ears when rain is approaching.

## Two Service Suggestions

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770 Kinau St. .... 4 " ..... 32.50  
1562 Nuanu Ave. .... 5 " ..... 50.00  
1818 Beretania St. .... 2 " ..... 25.00  
Waialae Road ..... 15 " ..... 100.00  
Set. 6th and 7th Aves.  
Hyde and Oahu, Manoa ..... 2 " ..... 35.00  
929 Green St ..... 2 " ..... 35.00  
1317 Makiki St. .... 2 " ..... 25.00  
1225 Wilhelmina Rise ..... 2 " ..... 25.00  
14th and Palolo Aves, Kaimuki. 2 " ..... 22.50  
1712 King St. .... 2 " ..... 30.00  
2051 Lanihuli Drive (Manoa) ..... 3 " ..... 35.00  
Hackfeld and Prospect ..... 3 " ..... 27.50  
1246 Kinau ..... 2 " ..... 30.00  
1140 Kaili St. (in Lane) ..... 2 " ..... 12.50  
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